(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Based on the sanction of the State level Scheme Sanctioning Committee of Orissa, which approved new projects worth Rs 52.66 crore, of which central share was Rs 38.83 crore, the Centre has released Rs 17.47 crore as the first instalment in 2006-07. The projects are under various stages of implementation.

One village one product concept

1771. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any concept of one village one product;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when such proposal would come into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATl SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) No, Sir. The Government of India has not launched any programme so far on the concept of one village one product. However, the Government of India through the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is coordinating with Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) and Confederation of Indian Industries (CM) to examine the idea for its usefulness in India.

(b) One Village One Product (OVOP) was originally initiated in Japan, for the following reasons:

(i) to find and nurture products/industries that could best reflect and benefit each region; and

(ii) to reduce heavy dependency upon the Government and to promote autonomy and voluntariness among the people.

The principles of OVOP are oriented toward (i) creating globally accepted products that reflect pride in the local culture; (ii) realization of OVOP through independent actions utilizing the potential of the region; and (iii) fostering of people with a challenging and creative spirit.

(c) Relevance of the concept and its applicability to Indian situation would still have to be studied. There is no time-frame for replication of the concept in India.

Under utilization of allocation for NREGS

1772. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had budgeted Rs. 14,300 crore last year, to implement the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in 200 select districts;

(b) whether only about 50 per cent of the budgeted allocation was spent on this account till the end of January 2007, and whether the States have assured utilization of unspent funds before the year closes; and

(c) whether Government would ensure that in future funds allocated for this scheme are evently spent over the year, whereby targets for utilization are set every quarter, rather than for full one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No Sir. The budget allocation was Rs. 11300 crores in 2006-07.

(b) NREGA is a demand driven programme. However upto 12th March, 2007 funds amounting to Rs. 7787.36 crores have been released and the expenditure incurred upto January, 2007 amounts to Rs 6016.11 crores.

(c) N R EGA is not target based. Work is to be provided to all households as and when they demand work. Next instalment of funds is considered when 60% of available resources are utilized.

Rehabilitation Scheme for displaced persons

1773. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK:
DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new resettlement scheme to compensate and give relief to the persons displaced on account of the public projects by Government has come into force;